Distr.
LIMITED

L/ECA/PSD.4/17
20 December 1985

Original : ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Fourth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-12 March 1986

A REVIEW OF STATISTICAL ORGANISATION AND STAFFING PROBLEMS IN AFRICA, INCLUDING AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICES

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I. Introduction

1. The purpose of this paper is to describe some of the problems of statistical organisation and staffing in African national statistical services (NSS) and also to assess the effectiveness of African statistical services. A regional survey of statistical organisation and staffing was conducted by ECA in 1985 covering all national statistical offices in African countries. Previous studies on statistical organisation and staffing were conducted by ECA during 1965, 1974, 1976, and 1981.

2. The results of the 1985 survey showed a low response from the countries of the region when compared to the 1981 survey as can be seen in Table 1. The coverage in the 1985 survey was lowest in North Africa where only one country responded and was highest in Central Africa.

3. It should be recalled that the results of the 1981 survey were discussed in a working group on statistical organisation and manpower which was held in ECA, Addis Ababa in October 1981. Detailed results of the 1981 survey will be found in document ST/ECA/STPS/WG1/1.

4. In this paper we shall discuss the problems of statistical organisation and staffing in the NSS in the context of organisational location, structure, staff position and seconded staff of the NSS, censuses and surveys undertaken and those planned to be undertaken, data applications, dissemination of information, assessing the effectiveness of the NSS, institutional arrangements and data processing. Our discussion will refer to the results of the 1985 survey.

II. Organisational Location of the NSS

5. The location of the national statistical office within the government structure differs from country to country depending on certain priorities attached to statistics by the governments. In some countries such priorities are determined by the Ministry of Planning or the Office of the President/Prime minister.

6. The results of the 1985 survey (see Table 2) showed that 55 per cent of the NSS were located in the Ministry of Planning while 41 per cent were located in the ministries dealing with planning and other operations i.e. Ministry of Planning and Industry. The Ministry of Planning and Finance had 9 per cent of the NSS located to it and only 4 per cent continued to be under the Office of the President/ Prime Minister. In total 96 per cent of the NSS were located in ministries dealing with planning.

7. It can be argued that attachment to the Ministry of Planning has a number of advantages namely closer working relationship with the main users and the possibility of the statistical service securing an adequate share of the government budget. It can also be argued that such an attachment has the disadvantage of affecting the degree of independence of the NSS in supplying data to other sectors of the economy.

III. The Structure of the NSS

8. The structure of the NSS depends to a large extent on the work programme of the national statistical office. The structure generally varies from country to country because of the variety of arrangements adopted by the countries. The structure of the NSS as observed in the 1985 survey is given in Tables 3 and 4. This structure is found to be similar to that observed in the 1981 survey.

9. The results of the survey (see Table 3) showed that none of the subjects/functions appeared in all the structures of the NSS of the countries of the region. Only the demographic and social statistics function appeared in the majority (95 per cent) of the organizational units of the NSS, the rest of the subjects/functions appeared in the structures of only some of the countries.

10. The survey identified a number of substantive organizational units in each service and also those units which are usually referred to as common services. The results of this classification (see Table 4) clearly indicated that some statistical offices regarded Data Processing, Documentation and Publication, Administration, Field Organisation and Demographic and Social Statistics as common services.

IV. Staff Position and Seconded Staff of the NSS

11. It should be noted that in the 1985 survey, the one country which responded from North Africa did not provide its staff position data including information on seconded staff. The analysis therefore is based on West, Central, and Eastern/Southern Africa data.

12. The results of the study are shown in Tables 5 and 6. These show that 20.5 per cent of the total staff in the countries of the region are professional, statistical and Electronic Data Processing (EDP). If only professional statistical staff are considered, then the proportion reduces to 13.6 per cent. Of the total staff employed there were 18.5 per cent nationals of the countries who were professional statisticians and EDP staff. If the EDP staff are excluded there were 11.0 per cent nationals of the countries who were professional statisticians.

13. In comparison with the results of the 1981 survey where 12 per cent of the staff were reported to be professionals, the number of professionals in the Africa region was clearly increasing. The total vacancy situation in relation to the total number of posts in the countries of the region was 9.5 per cent. This vacancy situation was highest in the Eastern/Southern Africa sub-region and lowest in the West African sub-region.

14. On seconded staff from the NSS to other statistical agencies/units, these represented 4.3 per cent of the total staff employed in the NSS. Considering seconded staff only there were 42.7 per cent professionals while 57.3 per cent were middle level staff. The West Africa sub-region had the highest proportion of seconded staff (57.2 per cent) while the Central African sub-region had the lowest proportion (20.8 per cent) of seconded staff.

15. It should be noted that solutions to the staffing problems of the NSS are one of the prerequisites for the proper implementation of their work programmes. Questions on how to attract good staff into the service while at the same time reducing the brain drain problems have to be addressed. The secondment of staff to other statistical agencies/units in the countries is another issue to be considered. Qualified and capable staff are normally the ones who are seconded to other agencies/units. This is because such staff need to work independently with minimal help from the head office. Secondment of less qualified staff to other statistical agencies/units merely adds more problems to the statistical service in that the statistical work produced by the units may not be of the right quality.

V. Censuses and Surveys Undertaken and Planned

16. In the survey, information was obtained on the censuses and surveys undertaken in the past five years and also those planned to be undertaken in the next five years. The results of the survey are in Tables 7 and 8.

17. The results of the survey showed that most of the countries conducted the following censuses and surveys in the past 5 years: Population, Income, Consumption and Expenditure, Agricultural Production and Industrial Production. Most of these censuses and surveys had been conducted by the NSS although in a few cases they had been conducted by other agencies/units. It should be noted that one country in North Africa reported to have conducted censuses and surveys in the fields of Civil Registration (annually), Job skills (annually), Production prices (quarterly), Consumption prices (monthly) and Industrial production (annually). It is the belief of the secretariat that other countries in the sub-region also conducted some of these censuses or surveys and perhaps considered them more of a routine data collection exercises than properly designed surveys. Such countries may only have reported national household surveys and not surveys using units of inquiry other than the household.

18. The censuses and surveys planned to be undertaken in the next five years by most of the countries included the following: Population, Income, Consumption and Expenditure, Labour Force/Employment and Agriculture. The majority of the censuses and surveys were planned to be conducted by the NSS and only a small number by other agencies/units. One country in North Africa plans to conduct censuses and surveys in the following fields: Labour Force/Employment (annually), Industrial Production (annually), Civil Registration (annually), Production Prices (quarterly), Consumption Prices (quarterly) and Training (annually).

19. Issues which normally arise concern the implementation of planned activities which sometimes are affected by changes in the priorities of the government and also by lack of resources to undertake the censuses or surveys. The planned activities need therefore to be discussed by the producer/user committee, if it exists or if such a committee does not exist, the statistical office should inform and discuss such planned activities with the Ministry responsible for statistics to ensure that the majority of the requirements have been taken into account. An examination of why a particular activity was not undertaken at the end of the planned period is always useful so that lessons can be learnt on how to formulate future plans taking into account all the variations which could occur.

VI. Data Applications

20. In the survey NSS were requested to indicate the actual uses of data from censuses and surveys undertaken in the countries of the region during the past 10 years. The summary description of the wide range of applications reported in the survey is given in Table 9 and the applications are given by type of census or survey. Some of the countries had been reported to have as many as ten actual applications while others were reported to have only one.

21. It is clear from the results of the survey that particular applications appeared to be special for certain types of censuses or surveys e.g. national accounts application appeared against Household Income and Expenditure, Agriculture and Industrial censuses and surveys. Such a result is perhaps expected since national accounts summarises basic economic statistics from various sources in order to build up the specific components of the accounts.

22. The applications reported in the surveys could be regarded as the minimum list because these were the country applications known to the NSS. Other applications which were not known to the statistical offices, due to various reasons were not listed in the survey. It should be mentioned that some of the applications appeared rather vague for example descriptions of applications such as planning, research, economic and social. Statistical offices should generally try to obtain a clear description of the uses of a census or survey particularly when planning such enquiries so that they can design questionnaires which lead to the collection of the intended data. The relevance of user/producer committees in the determination of data applications before data are actually collected cannot be over-emphasised.

VII Dissemination of Information

23. The dissemination of information was considered in the survey in terms of statistical publications, in so far as their nature and frequency. The results of the survey are presented in Table 10. A total of 138 publications were reported to be published by the statistical offices either as regular publications or not. The majority of the publications were released annually (49 per cent) while other publications were released as ad hoc (17 per cent), quarterly (14 per cent), monthly (7 per cent) and decennially (6 per cent) and the remaining publications comprised 7 per cent of the total. On other means of disseminating statistical information which the statistical offices used, mention was made of computer tapes and print outs, seminars and workshops and use of publications in other ministries to publish statistical information. The data dissemination policies of many NSS were not clear from the replies to the inquiry.

24. The results of the survey showed that the statistical bulletin/Abstract/Yearbook/ Digest/Review were more frequently published by the statistical offices. These were followed by publications on demographic and social statistics financial and economic accounts and prices, household budget and consumption in that order. The remaining publications were not usually published frequently.

25. The timeliness of publications was not examined in this survey. It should be noted however that statistical offices have had and continue to face problems of timeliness in their publications. Some of the offices are taking steps to correct this situation by acquiring their own off-set printing machines so that some of their publications can be printed on these machines. Other problems which statistical offices may face even after acquiring the printing machines may be lack of paper, lack of qualified manpower to service and run these machines etc. It is expected that the statistical offices will take the necessary steps to train staff to run and repair the printing machines and also ensure adequate budgetary provision for the purchase of printing paper and other accessories which may be needed to ensure the smooth running of the printing machines.

VIII Assessing the effectiveness of NSS

26. Although the survey was not directly aimed at assessing the effectiveness of national statistical services, information was gathered on problems affecting the performance of NSS. Such information supplemented by reports of missions to individual countries of a number of African countries make it possible for a rough assessment of the effectiveness of NSS in carrying out their functions to be made.

27. The performance of the NSS could be affected by several problems. In the survey a list of problems which could arise were provided but statistical offices were free to specify other additional problems which affect their performance. At the same time statistical offices were requested to rank the problems in the order of their seriousness. The results of the survey are given in tables 11 and 12.

28. A list of ten types of problems were provided by the statistical offices. Of the ten, the problem of "budget" was considered to be the most serious by the majority of the statistical offices. The problem of "staffing" came second in terms of seriousness. In particular, statistical offices indicated the problems of insufficient number of posts, difficulties in attracting qualified personnel, poor conditions of service and high staff turnover to be affecting their performance. Other problems which were listed but were considered less serious were administrative set up, managerial capability, data processing and printing equipment, insufficient number of vehicles for field work etc.

29. The ranking of the problems affecting the NSS in the order of their seriousness clearly showed the problem of budget as the most serious followed by the problem of staffing. The problems of staffing were: difficulties in attracting qualified personnel, high staff turnover and poor conditions of service. Of the other problems, managerial capability, data processing facilities and printing equipment, insufficient number of vehicles, problems faced with data furnishing ministries/agencies and lack of external finance to undertake big operations were all listed by some statistical offices to be of high priority.

30. In the view of the ECA Statistics Division, management of national statistical offices is probably the most important factor contributing to the poor performance of NSS. It is true that there are serious problems relating to the budget and staffing, but these problems notwithstanding more could have been done with the resources made available to most statistical offices. There is need for the management of NSS to be strengthened and for detailed work programme budgets to be prepared, indicating final outputs to be delivered, when they are to be delivered and what

resources are needed to deliver them. If resources requested are not provided, the work programme has to be amended to take into account the resources actually given. The final work programme budget should then provide the basis for judging the performance of the national statistical service.

31. The preparation of work programme budgets will require the services of a statistical planner. Once the programme has been established, a monitoring mechanism should be set in place in the Director's office. Deviations from delivery dates of outputs etc. should be justified. If NSS adopt such an approach, their Governments will be in a better position to assess their effectiveness and thus determine whether additional resources are needed to produce additional outputs.

IX. Institutional arrangements

32. Statistical offices in the countries tend to have different institutional arrangements for determining or monitoring their work. These are usually in the form of a statistical Board/committee, producer-user committee etc. In the survey, NSS were asked to indicate the types of arrangement which they have in their countries. If they do not have a formal producer-user committee, they were asked to explain how they exchange views with other producers and users of statistics.

33. Result of the survey are given in Table 13 and clearly showed that only 36 per cent of the NSS in the countries had a statistical Board/committee. None of the countries had a producer-user committee and the rest of the countries had other arrangements. In terms of exchange of views with other producers and users of statistics the countries indicated that they had means like seminars and workshops, consultations with users when required to do so and formal and informal contacts with producers and users of data.

X. Data processing

34. With the availability of computers both main frame and micros in African countries, national statistical offices have managed to computerise at least some of their operations particularly those relating to large scale sample surveys and censuses. There are however areas of statistics whose data continue to be manually processed. In the survey an attempt was made to determine areas where data were still manually processed. The results of the survey are shown in Table 14.

35. It is clear from the results of the survey that although the areas listed were said to be still manually processed, this is true of some countries only and that others may be processing the data by computer even though preliminary operations are done manually. Among the areas reported to be still manually processed, the majority of the countries listed price statistics. Other areas which though not so significant were manually processed are agriculture, industrial, transport, tourism, vital, motor vehicle registration and accidents, civil aviation, finance and national accounts.

36. Problems of data processing in most African countries arise from the maintenance of the hardware, lack of appropriate software for existing hardware and shortage of programming staff. It can be argued that for certain statistics i.e. administrative statistics, etc it may be quicker to process the data manually than by the computer. This is particularly so when the volume of data is small. Statistical offices must pay more attention to the training of personnel for the computer hardware and also its maintenance in future in order to ensure a smooth operation of processing surveys and censuses. The manual tabulation of certain statistics in national statistical offices will continue to be used for sometime to come.

XI. Conclusion

37. The paper has summarised the main results of the 1985 regional survey of statistical organisation and staffing. A rough assessment of the effectiveness of the NSS in carrying out their functions has been made. Problems relating to organisational location, structure, staffing, censuses and surveys, data applications, dissemination of information etc. have been discussed in the paper.

38. Participants to the joint conference are invited to:

(a) Comment on the results of the regional survey,

(b) Suggest additional topics for inclusion in future surveys,

(c) Suggest ways of solving some of the problems highlighted in the paper, and

(d) Finally, propose steps which would ensure that Governments appreciate the effectiveness of national statistical services.

Table 1. Replies to the 1981 and 1985 regional survey of statistical organisation and staffing

Sub-region	Number of Countries in the sub-region	Replies Received			
		1981		1985	
		No.	%	No.	%
North	6	3	50	1	17
West	16	10	63	6	38
Central	10	6	60	8	80
Eastern/Southern	19*	13	68	7	37
TOTAL	51	32	63	22	43

* Zanzibar and Mainland Tanzania treated separately.

Table 2. Location of the NSS

Location	Sub-region				
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
- Ministry of Planning	-	2	6	4	12
- Ministry of Finance and Planning	-	1	-	1	2
- Office of the President/ Prime Minister	-	-	-	1	1
- Ministry of Planning and other	1	3	2	1	7
Number of reporting countries	1	6	8	7	22

Table 3. Structure of the NSS

Subject or Function	Number of countries in the sub-region				
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
- Agricultural production	-	1	1	2	4
- Industrial production	-	1	-	1	2
- External trade	-	1	1	-	2
- National accounts	-	2	5	3	10
- Economic & financial	1	6	4	1	12
- Labour (Empl. & Earn.)	-	-	-	3	3
- Trade, Transport and Tourism	-	2	1	3	6
- Prices	-	-	1	3	4
- Demographic & Social	1	6	7	7	21
- Methods & Standards	-	3	-	-	3
- Electronic Data Processing (EDP)	1	1	2	2	6
- Documentation and Publication	1	4	5	2	13
- Administrative	-	6	2	5	13
- Field Organisation	-	2	5	3	10
- General Statistics	-	2	4	-	6
- Regional Offices	1	4	3	2	10
No. of reporting countries	1	6	8	7	22

Table 4. Number of countries classifying Divisions/Sections

Subject or Function	Classification		Total
	Substantive	Common Services	
- Agricultural Production	4	-	4
- Industrial Production	2	-	2
- External Trade	2	-	2
- National Accounts	10	-	10
- Economic & Financial	12	-	12
- Labour (Empl. & Earn.)	3	-	3
- Trade, Transport and Tourism	6	-	6
- Prices	4	-	4
- Demographic & Social	20	1	21
- Methods & Standards	3	-	3
- Electronic Data Processing (EDP)	5	1	6
- Documentation & Publication	3	10	13
- Administrative	5	8	13
- Field Organisation	9	1	10
- General Statistics	6	-	6

Table 5. Staff position in NSS

Staff position	NORTH					WEST			
	Staff in post					Staff in post			
	Nationals	Others		Vacancies	Totals	Nationals	Others		Vac
		Tech. Ass.	Govt.				Tech. Ass.	Govt.	
a. Head office									
a) Statistical personnel									
Professionals	-	-	-	-	-	110	9	1	2
Middle level	-	-	-	-	-	145	-	-	-
Clerks/Enumerators	-	-	-	-	-	93	-	-	3
b) Electronic data processing personnel									
Professionals	-	-	-	-	-	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-
c) Supporting staff									
Administrative	-	-	-	-	-	85	-	-	1
General services	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	2
b. Regional/District offices									
a) Statistical personnel									
Professionals	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
Middle level	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-
Clerks/Enumerators	-	-	-	-	-	48	-	-	-
b) Electronic data processing personnel									
Professionals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
c) Supporting staff									
Administrative	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	
General service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-	688	12	1	
Number of reporting countries			1					6	

ER OF PERSONS IN THE SUB-REGION

	CENTRAL						EASTERN/SOUTHERN						TOTAL				
	Staff in post						Staff in post						Staff in post				
an-s	Totals	Nationals	Others Tech. Ass.	Others Govt.	Vacancies	Totals	Nationals	Others Tech. Ass.	Others Govt.	Vacancies	Totals	Nationals	Others Tech. Ass.	Others Govt.	Vacancies	Totals
	122	86	14	1	5	106	64	7	6	41	118	260	30	8	48	346
	145	159	-	1	4	164	133	1	-	45	179	437	1	1	49	488
	96	198	-	-	8	206	291	-	-	60	351	582	-	-	71	653
	97	95	3	-	-	41	18	1	1	8	28	150	7	1	8	166
	16	56	-	1	1	58	121	-	-	25	146	195	-	1	26	222
	88	74	-	1	-	75	4	2	-	-	6	163	2	1	1	167
	44	97	-	-	-	97	56	-	-	3	59	195	-	-	5	200
	8	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	13
	27	40	-	-	2	42	3	-	-	31	34	70	-	-	33	103
	48	61	-	-	-	61	-	-	-	-	-	109	-	-	-	109
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18	18	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	36
	-	27	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	27
8	709	859	17	4	20	900	690	11	7	213	921	2237	40	12	241	2530
				8					7					22		

Table 6. Number of NSS staff seconded to other Statistical Agencies/Units

Agency/ Unit	Sub-Region: North Proff. level	North Middle level	North Total	West Proff. level	West Middle level	West Total	Central Proff. level	Central Middle level	Central Total	Eastern/Southern Proff. level	Eastern/Southern Middle level	Eastern/Southern Total	Total Proff. level	Total Middle level	Total Total
- Labour & Employment	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	3
- Public Health & Population	-	-	-	2	6	8	1	12	13	3	1	4	6	19	25
- Education	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	1	1	-	1	2	2	4
- Agric., Livestock & Fisheries	-	-	-	4	5	9	1	3	4	1	1	2	6	9	15
- Finance & Trade	-	-	-	4	3	7	-	2	2	-	4	4	4	9	13
- Planning	-	-	-	6	9	15	1	1	2	4	1	5	11	11	22
- Mines & Industries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	3	-	3
- Scientific Research	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	2
- Population, Youth & Sports	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1
- Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	-	2	2
- Central Bank	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
- Others	-	-	-	10	9	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	9	19
Total	-	-	-	28	35	63	5	18	23	14	10	24	47	63	110
No. of Reporting countries	1			6			3			7			22		

Table 7. Censuses or surveys undertaken in the past 5 years

Censuses and Surveys	Sub-region and Agency/Unit responsible								
	North		West		Central		Eastern/ Southern		Total
	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	
1. Population	-	-	2	-	5	-	4	1	12
2. Income, Consumption & Expenditure	-	-	3	-	3	-	5	2	13
3. Labour Force/ Employment	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
4. Health	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
5. Food and Nutrition	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
6. Agricultural Production	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	-	6
7. Industrial Production[1/]	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
8. Fertility	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
9. Tourist expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
10. Civil Registration[1/]	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6
11. Job skills[1/]	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
12. Production prices[2/]	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
13. Consumption prices	60[3/]	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	60
14. Commercial, Industrial and other Services	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
15. Infant Mortality	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
16. Transport	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
17. Others	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	1	7
TOTAL	93	-	16	-	18	-	16	5	148
No. of reporting countries	1		6		8			7	22

1/ Annually

2/ Quarterly

3/ Monthly

Table 8. Censuses or surveys planned for the next 5 years

Censuses and Surveys	Sub-region and Agency/Unit responsible								
	North		West		Central		Eastern/ Southern		
	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	NSS	Other	Total
1. Population	1	-	3	-	5	-	4	1	14
2. Income, Consumption and Expenditure	1	-	2	-	3	-	4	-	10
3. Labour Force/ Employment	5 1/	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	9
4. Agriculture	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	6
5. Industrial prod.	5 1/	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	8
6. Economic Data	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
7. Fertility & Mortality	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
8. Civil Registration	5 1/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
9. Trade & Services	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
10. Production prices	20 2/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
11. Production	20 2/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
12. Consumption prices	60 3/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
13. Training	5 1/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
14. Informal sector study	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
15. Price study	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
16. Household	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
17. Fertility & Contraception	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	123	-	14	-	14	2	13	3	169
No. of reporting countries	1		6		8		7		22

1/ Annually

2/ Quarterly

3/ Monthly

Table 9. Data applications in the past ten years

Type of Census/ Survey	Uses of Data	Sub-region				
		North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
1. Household income & exp. survey	- Construction of CPI/RPI	-	-	1	2	3
	- Estimation of private consumption exp. in National Accounts	-	-	-	2	2
	- Nutritional analysis	-	-	-	2	2
	- Survey of food habits	-	-	-	1	1
	- Economic & Social Studies	-	-	-	1	1
	- National Accounts	-	-	1	-	1
	- Planning & Development	-	-	-	2	2
2. Population and Housing	- Planning & Policy	-	3	4	6	13
	- Delineation of constituencies	-	-	-	1	1
	- Projection	-	1	1	1	3
	- Research	-	1	-	2	3
	- Sampling Frame	-	2	1	1	4
	- Population estimates for new regions	-	-	-	1	1
	- Socio-Economic Indicators	-	-	-	4	4
	- Demographic Studies	-	1	-	-	1
	- Population, Employment & Food Production	-	-	1	-	1
	- Vaccination programme	-	-	1	1	1
3. Census of Economic Activities	- Computation of Economic Indicators (GDP)	-	-	-	1	1
	- Construction of the I/O tables	-	-	-	1	1
4. Agriculture Censuses & Surveys	- Information planning	-	-	-	1	1
	- Formulation of policy	-	-	-	1	1
	- Research	-	-	-	1	1
	- National Accounts	-	-	-	1	1
	- Estimation of Input to Agric. & Production	-	-	-	1	1

Table 9 (cont'd)

Type of Census/ Survey	Uses of Data	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
5. Tourism exp. survey	- Estimation of tourist expenditure	-	-	-	1	1
6. Labour/Employment survey	- Economic studies	-	-	-	1	1
7. Industrial, Commerce & Services	- Planning	-	-	1	1	2
	- Economic Accounts	-	1	1	-	2
	- Research	-	1	-	-	1
8. Fishing	- Research	-	-	1	-	1
9. Fertility	- Development Planning	-	1	1	-	2
	- Projection	-	-	1	-	1
10. Socio-Demographic & budget	- Planning	-	-	1	-	1
	- Price index	-	-	1	-	1
11. Informal Sector	- Research	-	1	-	-	1
12. Socio-Economic	- Urban Planning	-	-	1	-	1
Number of reporting countries		1	6	8	7	22

Table 10. Nature & frequency of publications in the sub-region

Nature and frequency	Number of publications in the sub-region				
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
1. Statistical Bulletin/Abstract/Yearbook/ Digest/Review etc.					
Monthly	-	1	4	1	6
Quarterly	1	4	5	3	13
Bi-annually	-	1	-	-	1
Annually	2	4	5	4	15
Quinquennially	-	-	1	-	1
Ad hoc	-	-	1	1	2
2. Financial & other Economic Accounts					
Quarterly	-	1	-	-	1
Annually	-	4	5	6	15
Ad hoc	-	-	2	-	2
3. Prices, Household Budget and Consumption etc.					
Monthly	-	3	1	-	4
Quarterly	-	1	1	-	2
Annually	-	-	1	1	2
Ad hoc	-	1	-	3	4
4. Labour & Employment					
Biannually	-	-	-	1	1
Annually	1	-	-	1	2
Ad hoc	-	-	-	1	1
5. Transport & Communication					
Annually	-	-	-	2	2
6. Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries					
Annually	-	-	1	2	3

Table 10 (cont'd)

Nature and frequency	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	Total
7. Population & Demography					
Annually	1	-	1	1	3
Decenially	-	3	-	3	6
Ad hoc	-	5	3	1	9
8. Social Conditions					
Ad hoc	-	-	2	1	3
9. Tourism & International Migration					
Annually	-	-	-	2	2
Ad hoc	-	1	-	1	2
10. External Trade					
Quarterly	-	1	1	-	2
Annually	-	3	2	4	9
11. Medical Statistics					
Annually	-	-	2	1	3
12. Education Statistics					
Annually	-	-	1	2	3
13. Country Profile					
Biannually	-	-	-	1	1
Annually	-	-	-	1	1
Ad hoc	-	-	-	1	1
14. Vehicle Registration					
Annually	1	-	1	1	3
15. Commerce, Industry & Services Enterp. survey					
Annually	-	1	-	-	1
16. Index of Industrial prod. survey/census					
Quarterly	-	1	-	-	1
Annually	-	-	1	3	4
17. Special surveys	-	2	1	2	5
No. of reporting countries	1	6	8	7	22

Table 11. Problems affecting the performance of NSS

Problems	Sub-region				
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Western	Total
1. Budget	-	4	3	6	18
2. Staffing					
i) Insufficient no. of posts	-	2	6	5	13
ii) High staff turnover	-	3	3	2	8
iii) Poor conditions of service	-	2	5	4	11
iv) Difficulty in attracting qualified personnel	-	4	6	3	13
v) Accommodation	-	-	-	1	1
vi) Insufficient motivation	-	-	-	1	1
vii) Lack of trained statistical workers and programmers	-	-	1	1	2
3. Administrative set up	-	3	2	2	7
4. Managerial capability	-	2	1	1	4
5. Data Processing facilities & printing equipment	-	-	-	2	2
6. Insufficient number of vehicles for field work	-	-	1	1	2
7. Lack of understanding (or appreciation) of the importance of statistics by users	-	-	-	1	1
8. Problem faced with data furnishing ministries/agencies	-	-	1	-	1
9. Lack of all types of materials	-	-	1	-	1
10. Lack of external finance to undertake big operations	-	-	1	-	1
No. of reporting countries	1	6	3	7	22

Table 12. Rank of problems affecting the performance of NSS

Problems	Rank 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Not stated	Total
1. Budget	6	4	7	-	-	-	-	1	22
2. Staffing									
i) Insufficient no. of posts	6	4	2	-	1	-	-	9	22
ii) High staff turnover	5	1	-	-	1	1	-	14	22
iii) Poor conditions of service	4	4	-	1	1	-	1	11	22
iv) Difficulty in attracting qualified personnel	7	5	1	1	1	-	-	9	22
v) Accommodation	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	22
vi) Insufficient motivation	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	21	22
vii) Lack of trained statistical workers & programmers	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	20	22
3. Administrative set up	-	3	3	-	1	-	-	15	22
4. Managerial capability	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	18	22
5. Data Processing facilities and printing equipment	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	20	22
6. Insufficient no. of vehicles for field work	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	22
7. Lack of understanding (or appreciation) of the importance of statistics by users	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	21	22
8. Problems faced with data furnishing ministries/agencies	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	22
9. Lack of all types of material									
10. Lack of external finance to undertake big operations	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	20	22

Table 13. Institutional arrangement by region

Type of arrangement	Sub-region				Total
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	
- Statistical Board/ Committee	1	3	2	2	8
- Producer-user committee	-	-	-	-	-
- Other	-	3	6	5	14
No. of reporting countries	1	6	8	7	22

Table 14. Statistical areas which are still manually processed by sub-region

Areas whose data are still manually processed	Sub-region				Total
	North	West	Central	Eastern/ Southern	
1. Agricultural statistics	-	-	3	4	7
2. Industrial statistics	-	-	4	6	10
3. Price statistics	-	4	4	4	12
4. Transport statistics	-	-	3	3	6
5. Tourism statistics	-	-	3	3	6
6. Vital statistics	-	-	5	4	9
7. Motor vehicle registration and accidents	-	1	3	4	8
8. Civil aviation statistics	-	-	3	4	7
9. Financial statistics	-	2	3	3	8
10. National account statistics	-	2	3	2	7
11. External trade statistics	-	-	2	2	4
12. Family planning statistics	-	-	-	4	4
13. Social statistics	-	1	4	4	9
No. of reporting countries	1	6	8	7	22